## NEW PROMOTION COMMITTEE

At the Board meeting in Sebring it was decided that a committee was needed to work out plans for promotion at the Shows, Fair etc,

Our First Vice President, Mr. Ralph Philo, after talking this over with President, Walker Lyon, appointed the following to this committee:

Eric Golby, Chairman
Clif Landers
Lee Trainor
Jim Wallace
George Schmidt

This committee is charged with developing some type of promotion booth, scheme, or gimmick to get the AHS more in the foreground at our official functions. They have a big job cut out for them and would welcome any ideas you might have. Let them hear from you.

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## HOW TO HANDLE HIBISCUS CUTTINGS

Have you ever cut off a batch of hibiscus cuttings and placed them in a bucket of water as soon as cut off? Did you wonder what the slime like material that forms at the base of the cut was? This question was put to Mr. Leonard P. Stoltz of the Department of Horticulture at the University of Kentucky. Here is his answer:

"You were inquiring as to the desirability of placing hibiscus cuttings in a tub of water before placing them in a bed. In general I would say that this would not be a desirable practice. The slime material which you mentioned forming at the base of the cutting was the result of the materials being exuded from the cut phloem. These materials would consist of sugars, proteins, and to a lesser extent, hormones. There has been some work which shows that hormones can be leached through the ends of cuttings placed in water overnight. However, placing them in water for a short time would not appreciably reduce the amount of hormones. The great danger rather would come from bacterial or fungal contamination. Almost all water contains fungi and bacterial of various types unless it has been sterilized to kill off these organisms. The material being exuded at the base of the cuttings is a tremendously rich food supply for such organisms. The organisms once in contact with this food supply can multiply rapidly. If they are organisms which can attack plant tissue, they will be carried from the water to the propagating bench and will cause a rapid breakdown of the tissue and death. If they cannot directly attack the tissue, they may buildup in such numbers within the tissue of the cutting that they will cause blockage of water transport and this will result in either slower rooting or in extreme cases death after a long period."

"The best method of handling cuttings taken from the field is to place them under a moist cloth and keep them out of the sun in order to prevent wilting."

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Don't marry for money---borrow it, it's cheaper.